

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 213

Recognizing the historical significance of the city of Santa Fe, New Mexico,
on the occasion of its 400th anniversary.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 16, 2009

Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico) submitted the
following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the historical significance of the city of Santa
Fe, New Mexico, on the occasion of its 400th anniversary.

Whereas, before 1598, the Pueblos of the Rio Grande region
of New Mexico inhabited the area now officially known as
Santa Fe;

Whereas, from the first arrival of Spanish colonists in August
of 1598, the Pueblos of the Rio Grande and adjoining re-
gions of New Mexico provided support and sustenance to
those colonists, which allowed the colonists to persevere
at San Gabriel del Yunque, the first villa and capital of
New Mexico located in the Pueblo lands of Ohkay
Owingeh;

Whereas, on March 30, 1609, the viceroy of New Spain, Luis
de Velasco II, upon receiving a royal proclamation from
the King of Spain and the captain general of New Mex-

ico, ordered Governor Pedro de Peralta to arrive in New Mexico before the end of 1609 and establish a villa at the site of what is now known as Santa Fe;

Whereas some 70 years following the establishment of the villa of Santa Fe, the Pueblos took up arms and forced the inhabitants of the villa to retreat to El Paso de Guadalupe in what was then Mexico;

Whereas, in 1692, the Spanish colonists began to return to the villa, which, although initially peaceful, resulted in several armed conflicts lasting through 1696;

Whereas, following the repopulation of Santa Fe and re-institution of the Spanish government in New Mexico, the Pueblos and Spanish colonists found ways to engage in mutual cultural interchange;

Whereas, over the following years, and despite intermittent disputes, the colonists and the descendants of the colonists formed alliances with the Pueblos and each accommodated the culture of the other, allowing Santa Fe to flourish;

Whereas the peaceful acceptance of each other's cultures continued through the conquest of New Mexico by the United States during the war with Mexico, contributed to the evolution of the cultural heritage of Santa Fe, and resulted in the recognition by the State and Federal governments of the sovereign rights of the Pueblos, including their right to self-government;

Whereas, during 2009 and 2010, Santa Fe will proudly observe the 400th anniversary of the settlement and subsequent founding as a villa and the multicultural heritage of the city with suitable events and observances to commemorate the occasion and to pass on to future genera-

tion the heritage of Santa Fe and the surrounding region; and

Whereas it is important that the commemoration provide a foundation for peace, hope, and collaboration for Santa Fe and its surrounding communities, and a foundation for moving forward as a flagship community within the State of New Mexico: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) recognizes the historical significance of the
3 city of Santa Fe, New Mexico;

4 (2) recognizes the 400th anniversary of the es-
5 tablishment of Santa Fe; and

6 (3) encourages the people of the United States
7 to observe the anniversary with appropriate cere-
8 monies and activities.

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